

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 1132 - SB 1149**

March 20, 2023

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Establishes the circumstances under which a veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists, and a licensed veterinarian is authorized to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine for a livestock producer. Requires an initial physical meeting between the veterinarian and a client to establish a relationship. Authorizes the relationship to be maintained by electronic or telephonic means during the 24 months that follow the date of an initial exam or premises visit.

Establishes that a licensed veterinarian who renders or attempts to render emergency or urgent care to patient where a veterinarian-client-patient relationship does not exist is not subject to discipline based solely on the inability to establish such relationship. Authorizes a licensed veterinarian to conduct an initial evaluation of a patient through electronic or telephonic means in remote regions of this state where there is no locally available veterinarian, if certain conditions are met.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the Department of Health, the Board of Veterinary Examiners can accommodate any additional responsibilities within existing personnel and resources; therefore, any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board of Veterinary Examiners had a surplus of \$233,646 in FY20-21, a surplus of \$152,865 in FY21-22, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$1,528,410 on June 30, 2022.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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